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Mott has written in this volume the village history. No historian could be better qualified, for he descends from the villagers of that day. New York yet remained a simple town, its social centers were still its churches. Quite naturally, therefore, the history of Bloomingdale is to be written about the beginning and the growth of its church, the Church at Harsenville. Church records are the best material for such history, the records in the books of marriages and births and the stone records which cluster under the eaves of the sanctuary. It was a placid history. Only once did war come near it to redden the buckwheat field in the battle of Harlem Heights, only once again did war sound its alarm and then it was no more than a threat in 1812. It is well to bear in mind that this is village history upon metropolitan soil. There are New Yorkers in quiet byways to whom it will be a pleasure to read of ancestors on this island when Bloomingdale was a region of farms and country seats. The maps and diagrams have been compiled with that accuracy which we have already learned to associate with Mr. Mott's historical researches on Manhattan Island. The illustrations show that he has drawn upon every available source of family portraiture, in most cases sources to which he enjoys hereditary right of access. WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

The Government of American Cities. By William Bennett Munro. ix and 401 pp. Index. Macmillan Co., New York, 1912. \$2. 9 x 6.

A satisfying volume that presents with clearness and vigor the details and principles of city government. It outlines the development of governmental methods from the earlier times to the present, summarizes modern experiments and tendencies and includes a suggestive closing chapter on Municipal Reforms and Reformers. One is surprised to find how varied are the details of procedure in the many large cities of the country, and how widespread the dissatisfaction with local methods. The origin of the Commission form of government in the last decade, its expansion, its strength and weakness are considered at length. A similar careful treatment is presented of the advantages and possible disadvantages of the initiative, referendum, recall and protest. The book shows the author a master of his subject, the presentation is up to date, the style clear and pleasing, and the choice of subjects complete. Every person who would know what real citizenship means, and how progress may be sanely secured, should read this book. It is educative in the best sense for the professional politician, the reformer, the taxpayer, the voter and the citizen who in his ignorance and narrowness often defeats his own good intentions. RICHARD ELWOOD DODGE.

Forestry in New England. A Handbook of Eastern Forest Management. By Ralph Chipman Hawley and Austin Foster Hawes. xv and 479 pp. Map, ills., index. John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1912. \$3.50. 9 x 6.

A book of regional forestry with the double purpose of being valuable to land owners in the east, and as a textbook of forestry in New England. It serves in a reasonable degree both ends for it is entertainingly written and packed with information and explanation. The first, eleventh and twelfth chapters are the most geographical; the first treats the geography of trees under conditions required by various species; the eleventh chapter discusses the original forests, "immense white pine forests stretching across Massachusetts to the foot of the Berkshires and extending well up the rivers of Maine, to Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire, up the Connecticut into Vermont and New Hampshire and eastward from the borders of Lake Champlain" (p. 183). Southern New England had a larger percentage of hard woods.

The author traces the change of attitude of the people, from reverence and solicitude for forests in the early days to fear, and hate, then to mastery, and finally to deep solicitude and guardianship. This discussion, with the change of condition of the forests and the interactions between man and the forests, constitute very pleasing geography.

A careful description of the forests, region by region, their improvement by closer adaptation to conditions, their markets and their probable future among the other industries of New England constitute the forester's special part of the book. Tables, statistics, bibliography. G. D. HUBBARD.